

Science expectations from Reception to Year 2.

Expectations at the end of EYFS	Expectations at the end of KS1
Looks closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change.	Asks simple questions and recognises that they can be answered in different ways.
Explores the natural world around them, makes observations and draws pictures of animals and plants.	Observes closely
Knows some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.	Uses simple equipment to perform simple tests.
Makes observations of animals and plants and explains why some things occur, and talks about changes.	Identifies and classifies using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions.
	Gathers and records data to help in answering questions.

Science Progression of skills from Reception to Year 2.

Reception – Explore and Notice

Children develop their natural curiosity by exploring, observing, questioning, comparing and talking about the world around them. They begin to use their senses and simple tools to investigate and communicate what they notice.

Explore → Notice → Talk → Ask

Year 1 – Investigate and Describe

Children begin to ask their own questions, make predictions and carry out simple investigations. They develop their ability to observe closely, compare and classify, record findings and use scientific vocabulary to describe what they have discovered.

Observe → Question → Predict → Test → Record

Year 2 – Investigate, Explain and Communicate

Children become increasingly independent in planning and carrying out investigations. They learn to make predictions using prior knowledge, recognise fair tests, measure and record results, identify patterns and use evidence to explain and communicate their findings.

Question → Predict → Investigate → Record → Identify patterns → Explain → Communicate